



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20380-0001

MCO 5200.17D  
PL24-#37  
4 May 1988

MARINE CORPS ORDER 5200.17D

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps  
To: Distribution List

Subj: Standardization of Military Terminology

Ref: (a) MCO 5711.1E  
(b) MCO P5600.31F

Encl: (1) Sample Format for Submission of Proposed Changes

1. Purpose. To increase combat effectiveness through improved interoperability by the use of approved, standardized terminology and to facilitate communication through common understanding of terms which have acquired special meaning or application in military operations.

2. Cancellation. MCO 5200.17C.

3. Background. The standardization of military terminology has become increasingly significant as a major factor towards improved interoperability through effective communication. This is accomplished in the Marine Corps through an established terminology standardization program.

a. The DoD terminology program functions under the direction of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS), in coordination with the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the military services, and the defense agencies. Approved terms are promulgated in the Department of Defense, Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (JCS Pub 1). JCS Pub 1 terms are to be used throughout the DoD to ensure uniformity in the application and use of terms and definitions.

b. The U.S. Marine Corps, in conjunction with the other U.S. military services, participates as a member of the Joint Military Terminology Group (JMTG) which is composed of four voting service representatives. The JMTG is established under the Operational Plans and Interoperability Directorate (J-7), Joint Staff. It is responsible for developing policy, principles, criteria, and procedures concerning the standardization of joint military terminology matters. It is therefore responsible for processing and coordinating joint and combined military terminology recommendations for JCS Pub 1 and the NATO Glossary of Terms and Definitions (AAP-6).

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c. The NATO terminology effort is an integral part of an overall NATO standardization program administered by the NATO Military Agency for Standardization. Definitions approved for inclusion in the NATO Glossary are published in JCS Pub 1.

d. Correct terminology must be used within the Marine Corps. The use of approved, standardized military terminology promotes effective communication within the Marine Corps and between the Armed Forces of the United States and their Allies.

#### 4. Information

a. Separate glossaries containing terms and definitions intended for joint or combined use will not be published without prior approval of the Director for the Operational Plans and Interoperability Directorate (J-7), Joint Staff.

b. The Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command (CG MCCDC) is the coordinating authority for participation in doctrinal development. The Marine Corps Terminology Program Manager is assigned by the Marine Air-Ground Task Force Warfighting Center, MCCDC. Direction and policy on terminology matters is given and enunciated by CG MCCDC. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans, Policies, and Operations (CMC (P)), exercises overall HQMC staff cognizance of the terminology program per reference (a). Terminology matters that progress beyond the JMTG are referred to this headquarters (CMC (PL)) for action.

c. Recommendations for consideration of new terms, definitions, or revisions of terms already published are encouraged to maintain the currency and effectiveness of JCS Pub 1 and the NATO Glossary. Whenever a term is subject to such divergent interpretations that its unrestricted use may be detrimental to communications, the term should be submitted for standardization. Technical and specialized terms are not considered appropriate for inclusion; however, they may be included if they are of general interest and are subject to misunderstanding or misuse. Terms are not to be submitted for inclusion in the NATO Glossary when the standard dictionary (current edition of the Concise Oxford Dictionary) is adequate for military use.

#### 5. Action

a. Addressees will ensure that official terminology used within the Marine Corps adheres to the policy prescribed herein.

b. Originators of Marine Corps publications shall take appropriate action to eliminate terminology from their publications that is in conflict with JCS Pub 1.

c. Commanders at all echelons will ensure that the terms and definitions used in official Marine Corps correspondence (i.e.,

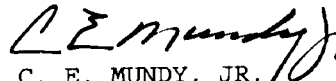
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orders, bulletins, messages, and documents/publications) are consistent with the terminology contained in JCS Pub 1. Care must be taken not to use "NATO only" definitions as they appear in JCS Pub 1 when referring to DoD (U.S. only) actions. The use of standardized military terminology is not an end in itself, but is a means to avoid misinterpretation of military policy, procedures, and techniques.

d. Reference (b) will be followed when ordering publications.

e. Recommendations for additions, deletions, or changes to JCS Pub 1 will be submitted to the CG MCCDC (WF12E), Quantico, VA 22134-5000, using the format in the enclosure.

6. Reserve Applicability. This Order is applicable to the Marine Corps Reserve.



C. E. MUNDY, JR.  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
for Plans, Policies and Operations

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Sample Format for Submission of Proposed Changes

From:

To: Commanding General (WF12E), Marine Corps Combat Development Command

Subj: RECOMMENDATION FOR CHANGES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
DICTIONARY OF MILITARY AND ASSOCIATED TERMS (JCS PUB 1) OR  
NATO GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND DEFINITIONS (ENGLISH AND FRENCH)  
(AAP-6)

Ref: (a) MCO 5200.17D

1. Per the reference, the following changes are recommended for JCS Pub 1.

a. Change: armed mine - A mine ready to function upon activation for actuation.

COMMENT: (Briefly state reasons for the recommendation, including appropriate reference to source material.)

b. Add: controlled firing area - An area in which ordnance firing is conducted under control conditions so as to eliminate hazard to aircraft.

COMMENT: (Briefly state reasons for the recommendation, including appropriate reference to source material.)

c. Delete: current intelligence.

COMMENT: (Briefly state reasons for the recommendation.)

(Note: In changes such as in paragraph 1a above, added words are underscored, and changed or deleted words are included but lined-out.)

ENCLOSURE (1)